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Attorney Docket No. P04988US1

Amendments T the ClaimsC 1  
Claims 1-21 (Cancelled).

Claim 22 (Currently amended): An alloy comprised of Ni and Pt that is resistant to oxidation in air up to 1200°C, said alloy formed from a combination of Ni powder and Pt resinate, wherein the Ni is present in a proportion of at least 90 % by weight, with Pt making up the balance; said alloy being subjected to a heat treatment of between ~~1000~~1100°C to the melting point of Ni in a reducing atmosphere.

Claim 23 (Currently amended): The alloy of claim 22 wherein the Ni and Pt are present in the proportions of about 95 % to 5 % by weight, respectively.

Claim 24 (Previously presented): The alloy of claim 22 wherein the heat treatment is for up to 6 hours.

Claim 25 (Previously presented): The alloy of claim 22 wherein the reducing atmosphere is about 1% hydrogen and about 99% nitrogen.

Claims 26-27 (Cancelled).

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Claim 28 (Currently Amended): A method of suppressing oxidation characteristics of nickel, consisting essentially of, combining Ni powder with Pt resinate ~~in a ratio of approximately 95 % Ni powder and 5 % Pt by weight~~ wherein Ni is present in a proportion of at least 90% by weight with Pt making up the balance to form a Ni/Pt mixture, and heat treating the Ni/Pt mixture to a temperature of between 1000°C and a melting point of Ni in a reducing atmosphere.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 28 wherein the reducing atmosphere is approximately 1 % hydrogen with the balance nitrogen.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 28 wherein the heat treating is for approximately 6 hours.

Claim 31 ((Currently Amended): A method of creating an air-fireable end termination element for electronic components which requires metallization, consisting essentially of, making an end termination element from a Ni/Pt mixture formed from a combination of Ni powder with Pt resinate ~~in a ratio of approximately 95 % Ni powder and 5 % Pt by weight, and~~ wherein Ni is present in a proportion of at least 90% by weight and Pt making up the balance; heat treating the Ni/Pt mixture to a temperature between 1000°C and the melting point of Ni in a reducing atmosphere.

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Claim 32 (Currently Amended): An air-fireable end termination element that is resistant to oxidation in air up to 1200°C, said element being comprised of a Ni and Pt alloyed product, said alloyed product formed from a combination of Ni powder and Pt resinate heat treated to a temperature between 1000°C and a melting point of Ni in a reducing atmosphere, where Ni is present in a proportion of at least 90 % by weight, with Pt making up the balance.

Claim 33 (Previously presented): The element of claim 32 wherein the proportion by weight of Ni to Pt is approximately 95 % to 5 %, respectively.

Claim 34 (Previously presented): An air-fireable conductor plate for capacitors that is resistant to oxidation in air up to 1200°C, said plate being comprised of a Ni and Pt alloyed product heat treated to a temperature between 1000°C and a melting point of Ni in a reducing atmosphere, said product formed from a combination of Ni powder and Pt resinate, where Ni is present in a proportion of at least 90 % by weight.

Claim 35 (Previously presented): The element of claim 34 wherein the proportion by weight of Ni to Pt is approximately 95 % to 5 %, respectively.

Claim 36 (Currently Amended): A thick screen printable fireable conductor material that is resistant to oxidation in air up to 1200°C, said material being comprised of

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a Ni and Pt alloyed product heat treated to a temperature between 1000°C and a melting point of Ni in a reducing atmosphere,  
said alloyed product formed from a combination of Ni powder and Pt resinate,  
wherein Ni is present in a proportion of at least 90 % by weight with Pt making up the balance.

Claim 37 (Previously presented): The material of claim 36 wherein the proportion by weight of Ni to Pt is approximately 95 % to 5 %, respectively.

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